

## **SB 1556 (Torlakson)**

### **The Great California Delta Trail**

Author: Senator Torlakson

Principle Co-Author: Assemblymember Wolk

Co-Authors: Senators Chesbro, Machado and Ortiz; Assemblymember Jones

**Summary:** This bill authorizes the creation of a California Delta Trail and requires the Delta Protection Commission to create a plan for designing, implementing and maintaining this Trail. The California Delta Trail would be a bike and pedestrian trail system and recreation corridor along more than 1,000 miles of Delta waterfront in Contra Costa, San Joaquin, Sacramento, Yolo and Solano Counties. The Commission's planning process is required to incorporate local government and community stakeholders. This bill does not create a route or alignment.

**Background:** The Delta Trail vision was inspired by the San Francisco Bay Trail, which will encircle over 450 miles of Bay waterfront and link over 47 cities and communities. The Delta Trail will link with the San Francisco Bay Trail terminus in Martinez and end at the Bay Trail in Benicia to ultimately create a bicycle route from San Jose to Sacramento and Stockton around the entire San Francisco Bay and Delta waterways.

Currently, much of the Delta is inaccessible except by boat, or in some cases, by car. Delta Protection Commission surveys over the past ten years have found that there are many unmet recreational needs for the Delta region including trails for hiking and bicycling, facilities for wildlife observation and education, water sports access, bank fishing areas, and improved historic and cultural sites with interpretive information.

The Delta Trail will provide recreational access to the Delta ecosystem, 22 current recreational facilities within the area, and miles of historic agricultural lands and small towns. The Delta Trail will connect major trail systems, planned and existing in the cities, towns and counties along the Delta waterfront, and fill in the gaps between in order to create one contiguous network around the region.

The California Delta Trail bill will bring together Delta counties, cities, local government associations and agencies for collaboration on this recreational and public health vision. SB 1556 requires the Commission to create advisory groups that include local government, regional government associations, and agriculture, water, recreation and environment stakeholders. This bill does not appropriate funds for the Trail.

Status: Senate Appropriations Suspense

**Support:**

The Delta Protection Commission  
Association of Bay Area Governments  
County of Yolo, Board of Supervisors  
City of Pittsburg, CA  
City of West Sacramento, CA  
Bay Point Municipal Advisory Council  
Knightsen Town Advisory Council  
Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter  
California Park & Recreation Society  
American Land Conservancy  
The Trust for Public Land  
East Bay Regional Park District  
Audubon California  
Save Mt. Diablo  
Ambrose Recreation & Park District (Bay Point, CA)  
East Bay Bicycle Coalition  
Discover the Delta Foundation  
The Dangermond Group  
Houseboats.com  
(former) Senator Patrick Johnston (individual)  
Greg Enholm, Ambrose Recreation & Park District Board member (individual)  
Christine Ganser (individual)

**Oppose:**

California Department of Finance